



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

G. RORY PATON-ASH, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/975,341

Filed: October 10, 2001

Art Unit: 3673

Patent Examiner:

Michael Safavi

[illegible]

LITE MINE ROOF SUPPORT CRIB AND METHOD

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

May 20, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated September 22, 2004, please enter the following amendments to the above-identified application as follows.